

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A combination measuring device for obtaining a combination of objects measured to have a ~~target weight~~ that is within a predetermined target weight range, said combination measuring device comprising:

a plurality of measuring units each having

a plurality of containers, the objects being accommodated in each of said plurality of containers,

a measuring portion for obtaining weight value of each of the objects accommodated in said containers, and

a stock portion in which said plurality of containers accommodating the weighed objects are stocked; and

a control portion that performs the combination calculation by using the weight values of all the objects stocked in said stock portions of all of said measuring units, such that an optimum combination of containers is selected with zero or one container at most being selected from each of said measuring units.

2. (Previously Presented) The combination measuring device according to claim 1, wherein

said stock portion stocks the containers in a longitudinal direction.

3. (Previously Presented) The combination measuring device according to claim 1, further comprising:

one collecting portion provided for said plurality of measuring units, wherein each of said measuring units is configured to be able to discharge the object from only one container to said collecting portion at a time.

4. (Previously Presented) The combination measuring device according to claim 3, wherein

each of said measuring units further has a transferring portion that receives the

container from said stock portion, and transfers the object accommodated in the container to said collecting portion.

5. (Previously Presented) The combination measuring device according to claim 4, wherein

said transferring portion has a first drive mechanism for transferring the container, and a second drive mechanism for rotating the container.

6. (Currently Amended) A combination calculation method by which an optimum combination of objects that is measured to have a ~~target~~ weight within a predetermined target weight range is determined, the method comprising:

a measuring step of measuring weights of objects accommodated in a plurality of containers, each of the plurality of containers belonging to one of a plurality of groups;

a storing step of storing the plurality of weight values for each of the respective containers together with the group to which the container belongs; and

a calculating step of performing combination calculation to obtain the optimum combination of the objects based on the plurality of weight values stored in said storing step, wherein

in said calculating step, the optimum combination is obtained while taking into account to which group each of the plurality of weight values belongs to, such that zero or one weight value at most is selected from each of the groups.

7. (Previously Presented) The combination measuring device according to claim 5, wherein

said first drive mechanism includes an arm portion at which the container is held, and a first motor that rotates the arm, and

said second drive mechanism includes a second motor that rotates the container relative to the arm portion.